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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20591

NOV 20 1969

A69-31

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

Honorable John H. Shaffer  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Washington, D. C. 20590

Dear Mr. Shaffer:

With reference to the telephone conversation of November 20, 1969, between Mr. Sliff, Deputy Director of your Flight Standards Service, and Mr. F. T. Taylor, of our Bureau of Aviation Safety, regarding the malfunction of the electrical system of an Eastern Air Lines Boeing 727, the Board wishes to confirm the following recommendation:

A one time fleet campaign covering all Boeing 727 aircraft be initiated at the earliest practical date to ascertain proper operation of the essential power electrical system with the essential power selector switch in the standby position.

Mr. Sliff, during the referenced telephone conversation, was advised of our concern in this matter when our staff learned of the Eastern Air Lines incident where the essential power malfunction was traced to crossing of terminals #42 and #52 at the essential power selector switch.

Operation of the 727 aircraft with a condition such as found in the Eastern Air Lines airplane could result in a loss of attitude indication when essential power is selected to the standby position.

Please advise of your findings in this matter. We are most appreciative of the cooperation of your staff.

Sincerely yours,

Original signed by  
John H. Reed

John H. Reed  
Chairman